# The Trail Blazer

OFFICIAL ORGAN METROPOLITAN HORSEMEN'S ASSOCIATION · OAKLAND, CALIF.





MAY 1951


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VOL. 11, No. 5 May, 1951

# The Trail Blazer

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**ALL COPY SUBJECT TO EDITORIAL REVISION**

**M. H. A. OFFICERS — 1951**

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**NEXT BOARD MEETING**

Thursday, June 7, 7:30 p. m.
Coffeys', 12204 Skyline Blvd.

## NOT FROM THE EDITOR'S POCKET

Temporarily separated from her pocket was your Editor when her trusty jeans were traded for a hospital gown—standard equipment for "repairing shingles" (and that ain't funny, McGee). But was she stopped—not AGC! As the staff discovered, the pocket is a gag—she keeps those notes in her head until her filing system gets into print, so we're responsible for errors, omissions or misspelling your name!

## THIS MONTH'S COVER

Ah spring, and those wonderful rides! The smoke of the campfire; the moon through the trees. Awake at dawn and up the trail. Some seem happier than others.

(Photo by Les Walsh, San Rafael)

## MHA BOARD ACTION

TRAILS: Two gates in Diamond B area repaired so even ladies can open them without dismounting; brush cleared on trail behind Pinto; Wes Adams has lengthened and widened the race track and improved horse-tying facilities; Huckleberry Trail from Park Boulevard and Skyline and Thornhill and Skyline toward Round Top, widened, brushed out, and wash-out repaired.

President Coffey still beating a path to Park and Street Department offices, and estimates and plans for future Skyline Trail being investigated and considered—all still hopeful of saving a piece of Skyline for horsemen.

MEMBERSHIP: Still going strong, latest figures report 520 already joined; 357 Seniors and 163 Juniors.

ACTIVITIES: Howard Young doing a Superman job with Dance, Overnight Ride, and Field Day, lining up everything from breakfast to bed rolls.

JUNIORS: Jerry Hansen managing everything from Drills to Treasure Hunts, outfits and outings.

HORSE SHOW: Numerous meetings and conferences with Deane Burton, Charles Hall and others as well as correspondence with the American Horse Show Association brings the schedule listed in this issue. Deane Burton, Charles Hall and Mabel Smith will serve on the Trophy Committee.

FINANCES: As of April 5, the bank balance showed $1998.84 with hopes of getting in another $675.00.

## GENTLEMEN'S DRIVING CLUBS

It has not been so many years ago that we spent our Sundays at the San Leandro race track or, more recently, at Golden Gate Park, watching the trotters. Racing exhibitions to a sulky were put on by the old-time standard breed enthusiasts, known as "gentlemen's driving clubs."

Surely there are a number of dyed-in-the-wool standard breed men who would still enjoy the zest of an afternoon in the sulky behind a fast-stepping trotter or pacer and who gave it up, due to lack of facilities.

The Concord-Mt. Diablo Trail Riders Association grounds at Concord, California are available now and they have some facilities for harness racing. What is not there now can readily be arranged for at the indication of enough interest to justify it. The Trail Riders are rather anxious to hear from anyone interested in this particular phase of the sport.

Please pass this article along to anyone interested and have them contact Fred Brotsch, 1291 Crawford St., Concord, phone Concord 9506, or George Walling, Vice-President Region No. 5, 2713 San Pablo Avenue, Oakland, phone Glencourt 1-8000.

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## MHA HORSE SHOW

Final plans for the MHA 9th Annual Horse Show to be held June 23-24 are nearing completion and the following revised schedule of events is announced:

**Saturday, June 23, Junior Show**

10:00 A.M.—EQUITATION
1.—Saddle Horse Seat
2.—Stock Horse Seat
3.—Hunting Seat
1:00 P.M.
4.—Children's Jumpers (performance only)
5.—Novice Stock Horse Class
6.—Pleasure Horses
(a) Saddlebred
(b) Thoroughbred
7.—Pleasure Horses: Western
8.—Lead-Line Class
9.—Relay Race
10.—Pole Bending
11.—Double Bareback

Classes open to children 17 years or under. No horse may enter both Western and English classes. Trophies and ribbons awarded in all classes.

**Sunday, June 24, Senior Show**

1:00 P. M.—
12.—Hunters: Open
13.—Jumpers: Knock-Down and Out
14.—Three Gaited Saddle Horses: Open
15.—Stock Horses: Open
16.—Trail Horses: Open
17.—Western Pleasure Horses
(a) Solid Color
(b) Pinto
(c) Palomino
18.—Pairs
(a) English
(b) Western
19.—Parade Horses
20.—English Pleasure Horses
(a) Park Hacks
(b) Road Hacks

Classes 12 through 15 in Senior Show will be money classes; all other classes plate and ribbons.

The show will be judged according to American Horse Show Rules.

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## HONOR FOR MHA

Representing the Metropolitan Horsemen's Association, Sidney Chown has been chosen Vice-Chairman of the Bay Region Council of Outdoor Clubs. This allies MHA with a group of over 6,000 people, all interested in TRAILS.

Groups represented in the organization are: Contra Costa Hills Club, California Alpine Club, East Bay Youth Hostelries, Berkeley Hiking Club, Golden Gate Audubon Club, University of California Hiking Club, Oakland Park Department, Regional Park Association, Sierra Club and Oakland Recreation Department.

## George Daniels Trail Ride and Field Day

**10:00 A. M. Wednesday, May 30**

### Meeting Place:

To be announced by mail. Restricted to paid membership (on horseback).

### Trail Ride in A. M.

Colored movies of the ride will be taken —wear your most photogenic colors!

### Lunch

Remember that delicious lunch last year —what a meal!

### Field Day Events in the Afternoon

You still have time to pay your dues and take part in this event. Send checks to Mabel Smith, or pay at any of the stables.

## TRIBUTE TO HORSE AND RIDER

Almost every day a colorful rider on a very beautiful horse can be seen out on Skyline. They share a mutual pleasure in their ride, the man enjoying the breathtaking view and the horse listening for the sound of hoof-beats on the trail. The bond between Rippling Rhythm and his owner, Don Walsh is a happy and noble thing; the horse is now totally blind, but completely at ease for he seems to know that his rider will never let harm come to him. Rippling Rhythm is a five gaited American saddle bred; once a show horse, winning a third at the Cow Palace even after his affliction, "Rip" still travels to Chicago with his owner.

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## MHA JUNIORS

**ATTENTION—ALL JUNIORS**

The monthly meetings have been changed back to the FIRST Saturday of the month.

### Drill Team

How slick can those Juniors get? They will soon be sporting their new Royal Blue shirts, complete with white tie and buttons, and topped by broad brimmed hats —mighty sharp! Carol Cosgriff, Shirley Johnstad, Pat Wirt, Mary Ann MacDonald, Ward Gallo, Marion Parson, Sandy Hooper, Phebe Brown, Dolores Doyas, Lea Buck, Dorothy and Kenny Bemis, Wally Freitas, and Judy Hauxhurst are the faithful Juniors who turn up for drill practice every time. If you want your Royal Blue and White to have something to be proud of —COME OUT AND SUPPORT THE DRILL TEAM. Practice is held every Saturday morning at 11:30 in the open ring above Miss Graham's.

### In the Home Stretch

Heading round the turn in the Junior's Membership Race are Marjorie Tennant, Daisy Jo Smith, Linda Patten leading— with Phebe Brown, Joan Chapton, Kathie Corder, Rosalie Cox, Ward Gallo, Susan Hooper, Betty Lovisone, Marion Parson, Bev Pettebone, Pat Rukavina, Carol Robbiano, and Carol Williams moving in fast for the last lap.

### Junior Events

The Treasure Hunt, held on March 31, was great fun. The lucky winners were Joan Lagonick, Carol De Meo, Mary Ann MacDonald, and Carol Cosgriff. The committee responsible for the day's success was Bob McKinstry, Barbara Isham, Ward Gallo, and Shirley Johnstad.

Saturday, April 21, was the Trail Ride day. The Juniors rode to the Girl Scout Camp in Redwood Park to play games.

Thanks to the helpers at the MHA Spring Dance. Shirley Johnstad, Pat Wirt, Wally Freitas, Marion Parson, and Lea Buck did a find job on the refreshments and check stand.

### Junior Horsemanship Judged

Through the courtesy of President Ad Long, the Martinez Horseman's Association has initiated a program of judging their junior riders in January and again in June to encourage proper form and methods of riding, presenting an award to the junior showing most progress in that interval.

George Cardinet, Jr., past President, CSHA and George Walling, Vice-President, Region No. 5, CSHA, judge classes riding bareback, Western and English, and each rider is asked to walk, jog, lope and back, to dismount and to mount, and is also allowed points for general ability and handiness.




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# Personals

## TO A NOTED HORSEMAN

To Winfield Thomas, brother of Burton Thomas, our final tribute. Out riding on April 20, he became faint and dismounted to rest. He did not regain consciousness. One of a four-brother family, all well-known horsemen, Win was a member of the Sonoma Trail Blazers, Orinda Rangers and the Frontier Boys.

The MHA expresses its deepest and most sincere sympathy to the members of the Thomas family.

## PERSONALS

CHECK your tack and saddles for safety—someone's been around gathering 'em, much to Heber Brown's regret. His insurance company is offering a reward for information re. whereabouts of the missing Brown saddle.

AT LARGE: Dr. John and Wynne Ohanneson are traveling in Europe. Have Dave and Kay Jones been to Mexico? What made Jim Myers' face red? He refused to give an interview on the subject. HORSES loose again—somebody's going to be sorry!

EMBARRASSED by misunderstanding is Cock-of-the-Walk; that cast on Bea McKechnie's arm resulted from getting his owner's signals crossed up at a gate.

BACK with Noni Nichols again "for keeps" after a year separation, is Hytone Denmark. "Denny" at 22 years is rapidly returning to excellent condition, showing what care and affection can do for a fine old stallion.

DELAYED DELIVERY: Tedda and Dick Beyler are losing plenty of sleep over their fine buckskin quarter mare, Trinity Rheba, awaiting the overdue arrival of a little Trinity.

NEW ADDITIONS: Dorothy Kaehler's registered Arabian mare, Anza, has a beautiful colt named Zaharah, sired by Athmadareb. He is the picture of his mother; dark sorrel, blazed face and white stockings. Musahib, the registered gelding is proud of his little stable-mate. Sox (Old Faithful) although not registered, still has a warm place in Dorothy's heart. Two of the happiest riders in our group—Gladys Smith with her lovely new dark sorrel purebred 4 year old Morgan mare, Topper, one of James Hoey's fine horses—and Joan Hartley with her beautiful sorrel quarter horse mare, Fly Creek, "Snup" for short.

IF a whinny of delight is heard echoing through the hills, it will be Merrit Herrick's horse, Comanche broadcasting his appreciation for his handsome new stable.

DASH GERN IT! You can't go to your own mailbox on Skyline without getting pinched—ask the man who parked wrong end front when he reached into the box for his mail!

WHO'S AHEAD—in the trash race between the beer can and other garbage law evaders on Skyline? Dunno—but a medal to the PEANUT MAN who picks up after all his customers every Sunday night. Someone ought to give him a MHA membership in appreciation of his efforts.

OUR THANKS to Nina Stern for recently taking over the publicity chairmanship for MHA. Already we have seen some of her work in the local press.

NOT taking De Anza's word for it, Sidney Chown treked to Almos, Mexico to look over the starting point and also checked the route of the 200 mile Calexico-Riverside trail ride . . came home and dashed off up Mt. Diablo on one of their rides and says they have their own trailer in which the association cooks the food for its members . . Barbara Baxter and Marilyn Johnson can verify this—they took the ride too.

## JOIN THE TRAIL RIDES

Under the chairmanship of Mrs. Onalee Phillips (ANdover 1-6763), the Saturday and Sunday trail rides are gaining in popularity. Everyone is welcome! Here are your riding dates for May and June:

May 13, Sunday. Johnny and Ollie Curry, 2 p. m. Crossroads.

May 19, Saturday. Margaret Rukavina, 2 p. m. Crossroads.

May 27, Sunday. Joe and Nina Stern, 2 p. m. Crossroads.

June 10, Sunday. Stan Cosca, 2 p. m. Crossroads.

Thanks for the success of the trail rides program are due Mrs. Phillips for her fine organization, and Judy White, Bill Patten, Stan Cosca, Phebe Brown, Barbara Baxter for their cooperation—and of course, Sidney Chown for starting this activity.

## HORSE BOOKS

The Oakland Public Library is willing to stock its shelves with worthwhile books about horses. Please send the names of any books you would like to see on the library shelves to: Editor, Trail Blazer, 12204 Skyline Boulevard, Oakland.

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## PIEDMONT STABLES

Welcome to Russ Ivy, now able to ride again; newcomer Bill Ludolph; Tom Skelton's new two year old Arab stallion and buckskin filly colt. Congratulations to Buzz and Mari Mogel on the arrival of Deborah Ann. Week-ending at Shasta, Jack and Ysabelle Pfeifler; trying Pleasanton trails, Bill and Jan Pray. The horses went too.

## MOUNTAIN RIDING CLUB

The former Lew Helm's Stables, is now owned and managed by Burl and Lillian Tatum. Boarders and guests enjoyed a trail ride and barbecue on March 31. Johnny Owen presided as chef and Eddie Marquardt entertained on his accordion. Those present were Ted and Caroline Bechtel, Ruth and Lou Conner, Lew Schaackey, Ward and Peggy Cramer, Dell Owen, Betty Lou Marquardt, Evelyn Kerr, Bob and Lynn Carroll, Jack McGuire and Burl and Lillian Tatum.

## PINTO RANCH

Our deepest sympathy to Ronnie Dunniway and Bev Pettebone whose beloved mare Goldie finally slipped away from their loving hands to those last heavenly pastures. Calf-roping season is on with Jim Heal and O. V. Jennings in charge, and Tom Tallarico's gelding is working as a cutting horse. Deanie and Pat Brown, Tom Tallarico, Pat Wirt, Frank Crass and Barbara Albert participated in the Lariette Show. Frank Crass' new outfit is really unique! Brown chaps with white buck stitching, silver mounted on fuchsia inlays, Kelly green and tan trim on a black background—wow!

## MISS GRAHAM'S STABLES

The Bridoons took off from Miss Graham's on a recent Sunday breakfast ride when Larry Brock, Paul Krause, Erna and Bob Van Den Berg, and other riders enjoyed a hearty breakfast in the Redwood Regional Park. Recently arrived from Columbia, Mississippi, is Blondy Bell, the Hauxhurst's new horse. Resting after an equinaccident is Arlene Adams. Golden Domino is Dr. Galen Drury's new Palomino stallion.

## TRUE HORSE TALE

I believe the most thrilling experience I have had with horses was with a big, fine work team I owned back in the "Good Old Days" of 1912.

Bids were called for by the Power and Light Company to furnish 350 large poles which had to be gotten from a mountain nine thousand feet high in Utah. The regular contractors wouldn't take the job as it was late October and the snow was due any time.

One day everything happened to make us late. At 8 p. m. we were at the top of a steep hill covered with ice and snow, and five miles from camp. Using good judgment, my partner decided to leave his load and return the next day but I decided to take the chance of going on.

I put a couple of rough locks on the back wheels but I hadn't gone far when one of the horses lost his footing and went down . . . in seconds the others followed. All I could do was to sit helplessly by looking for a place to jump in case the wagon went over and hoping it would stop about 300 feet down the hill, which it did. We got the badly scratched horses up and went on to camp o. k., earning money the hard way.—A. B. Graham.


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## Introducing NEW MHA MEMBERS

**SENIORS—**

LEONARD CIBULKA, Hayward, works at Dodge plant; lost his saddle in a fire at Sacramento and sold his horse, but plans on getting a new mount soon. Hobbies —photography and leather work.

ROBERT C. CARROLL stables his horse Gypsy at the Mountain Riding Club. Gypsy was trained as a polo pony, and her owner likes to read, ride and hunt.

FLOYD A. STEEN whose hobby is riding, works at the U. S. Army Base.

MRS. NORINE KELLEY and daughters CATHY and MARGARET recently moved from Pittsburg to Concord. Margaret is a member of the Concord Flying Horsemen; the sisters in Kelly green and white outfits are often seen at shows and in pair classes.

MRS. B. G. HARE of San Pablo is interested in the organization of Dalmatian Road Trials. Owns, raises and shows Dalmatians as a hobby. Beside teaching in the Oakland Public Schools, she finds time to study antique silver and early American pressed glass.

JOANNE MATTSON owns a black quarterhorse mare, Cindy Lou which she stables at the head of 106th Avenue. Works for the Oakland Chamber of Commerce and collects records (musical!) as a hobby.

C. A. KLEFFLER owns three horses, a mare and two geldings; rides with Castro Valley-Eden Horsemen, both English and Western, but his parade horse King prefers his silver equipment. Owner enjoys stamp collecting and photography.

**JUNIORS**

JOELLA MAHONEY is a high senior at Alameda High, on the Senior Executive Board, advisory president, interested in the photography club and studying advanced art and designing. She doesn't own a horse but likes to ride Western, ski, play tennis, and do art work—which will soon be seen in the Trail Blazer.


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# ORGANIZATIONS—

AAHMES SHRINE RANGERS Patrol Color Guard heard "Gee, I never saw a horse before . . ." "They feel soft, don't they?" . . "Oh, its hair is coming off" . . . "What do you do with rustlers?" . . when they appeared before the Oakland Boys' Club on April 6. Led by Past Captain Jacobs, Capt. Boger, 1st Lt. Si Simons, Lts. Heber Brown, Dave Jones, Hank Zaban, Joe Young, Frank Kelly and Archie Brown participated. The Mounted Patrol will be guests of the city of Sonora at the Mother Lode Fair. At the Lari-ette Show, Fred Bemis on Cap won the Pinto class, placed second in the Pairs Class with Archie Brown on Prince, and in the Rangers white uniform, was best dressed man. Joe Young on Mucho Grande and Hank Zaban on King were fourth in the Pairs Class. New member Bob Coates of Hayward was recently welcomed into the unit, and is looking for a Pinto. Vacation time finds the Dr. J. C. Campbells, and Ella Jacobs heading for Palm Springs, and the Kellys headed south but debating between Hawaii and Mexico for a longer trip.

BOOTS AND JEANS were the guests of the Mt. Diablo Trail Ride Association on a trail ride April 15, and on the 22nd they paraded in Richmond resplendent in new colors. The square dance team will be practicing every Wednesday night at Skyline Ranch.

THE LARI-ETTES take this opportunity to thank their many friends and sponsors for such fine assistance at the recent successful Horse Show — and special thanks to Lloyd Graham for putting the ring in excellent condition . . and may we add that the Lari-ettes worked very hard, too!

ALAMEDA COUNTY SHERIFF'S MOUNTED POSSE'S two projects, the Mounted Castro Valley Boy Scouts Troop No. 5, guided by Art Palmer and his committee, Larry Lovier and Jack Tracy, and the Montclair Boys' Ball Team, led by Marty Martin are both working with enthusiasm. Drill Master R. C. Van Den Berg is working the group prior to their appearance at the Rowell Rodeo, and an extra practice was held at Capt. Jim Myers' ring. Drilling on the Lurline are the Milner Andersons enroute to Honolulu.

FOOTPRINTERS MOUNTED UNIT and the Chapter Proper Initiation Team headed by President Walter Hawkinson journeyed to Redding on March 24 and installed a new Chapter. The Initiation was held in Anderson. Both Redding and Anderson, where the 123 candidates had been put through the mill, knew the Footprinters were in town. Other recent activities included the S. F. St. Patrick's Day Parade, the spring roundup at Ligure Hall, and the Hayward Parade. On April 2 the Unit met in their new club rooms at Eddie Martin's B. Bar S. Ranch. "Footprints" from eleven Western States now lead to the annual convention at Las Vegas.

BIT & SPUR Horse Show at Cressmount directed by Miss Cornelia Cress and Mary Lou Hansen turned all proceeds over to the World Student Service Fund and Oak Knoll Hospital, and entertained many veterans as guests. Officials of the show were: Judge—Fred MacMillan; Ring Clerk—Pat Brandes; Ribbon Clerk—Elizabeth Schohr; Number Clerks—Dorrie Lachmann and Carol Treffinger; Announcer—Earl Hansen; Paddock Clerk—Jerald Hanson; Gate —Mary Gale; Music—Harriet Harper.

## OAKLAND MOUNTED POLICE

The Oakland Mounted Police Horse Show will be held Sunday, June 3, beginning at 1:00 p. m. at Miss Graham's Riding Academy. Trophies will be awarded for 1st and 2nd place, ribbons to 5th place, and the Master Trophy will be presented for the horse accumulating the greatest number of points during the afternoon. There will be classes for everyone, as the following program of events indicates:

1.—Individual Clubs or Stables (parade quality)
2.—Maiden Jumpers
3.—Western Trail Horses
4.—Parade Horses
5.—Western and English Pairs
6.—Knock Down and Out
7.—Costume Novelty Class
8.—English Pleasure Class
   (a) Thoroughbred
   (b) American Saddlebred
9.—Western Pleasure Class
10.—Junior Horsemanship (English and Western)
11.—Cloverleaf Stake Race
12.—Musical Chairs
13.—Tennessee Walkers
14.—Calf Cutting
   (a) Western
   (b) English equipment

Entry blanks may be obtained at Miss Graham's or any other stable or by writing Charles Hall, 205 West Broadmoor, Oakland—SWeetwood 8-5938

## HOPALONG IN OAKLAND

The Oakland Junior Chamber of Commerce and the Oakland Park Department are jointly sponsoring Hopalong Cassidy Day, Saturday, June 9 to celebrate the opening of Pony Rides for children in Peralta Park—east of the Auditorium. Day's activities include a parade of all mounted units—with "Hoppy" as Grand Marshall, free pony rides and refreshments for the youngsters. Parade arrangements are being handled by Charles Hall of MHA in cooperation with the Oakland Police Department. Anyone wishing to participate contact either Charles Hall, UNderhill 3-2010 or R. Don Carlson GLencourt 1-3675.

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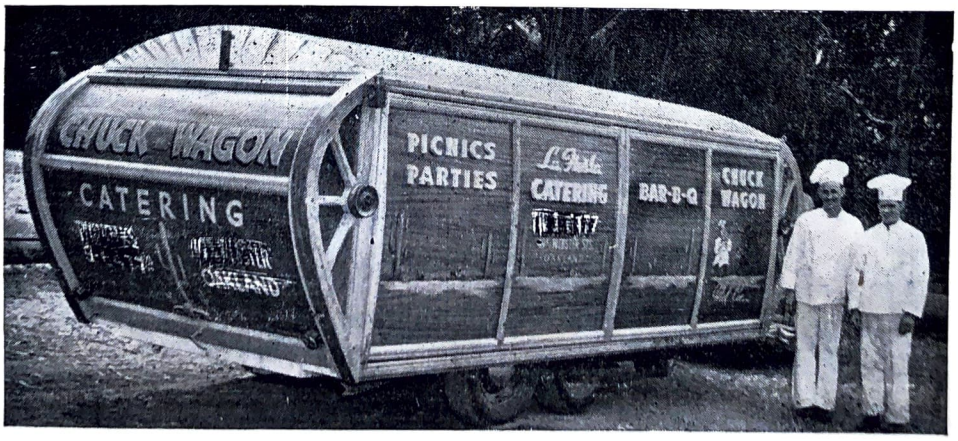
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